

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **SB 1743 - HB 1672**

March 23, 2001

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Authorizes local education agencies to enter into cooperative agreements with nonprofit entities to offer technical prep high school curriculum under the following conditions:

- The local board of education must approve all agreements;
- Agreements must be in writing and include course name, minimum number of student contact hours, whether the course is an elective or as part of the technical prep high school curriculum, instructor's qualifications, and any funding the local board of education provides to the non-profit organization;
- Courses approved for credit are limited to those for which the State Board of Education offers no teaching endorsements;
- The non-profit is located in the LEAs' service area and has a primary purpose of promoting educational programs with an emphasis on state of the art technology;
- Any course offered must have prior approval of the Department of Education acting in accordance with the State Board of Education policy on special courses; and
- Any funding provided to the non-profit by the board shall not exceed, on a per pupil basis, regular tuition charged other attendees for the same or similar classes.

This bill prohibits LEAs from entering into agreements if such agreements directly result in the elimination of an existing course offering of the local board of education.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

#### **Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Less than \$100,000/Permissive**

This estimate assumes the following:

- Funding provided to the non-profit organization would not exceed the regular tuition charged for the course.
- The majority of these courses would be technology based courses, including certification in software engineering, computer programming, computer graphics and design, and computer aided design.
- There would not be a significant number of such agreements based on the fact that there are few non-profit organizations that offer such courses.

## **SB 1743 - HB 1672**

- Many of these classes may be offered free of charge to high school students. (For example, the Renaissance Center in Dickson, Tennessee offers technology classes for free to high school students. Approximately, 12 high school students enroll in computer classes at the Center each semester.)

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James A. Davenport". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

James A. Davenport, Executive Director